

Dear FCC Committee:

I am writing to express my disgust at the action of Pappas Telecasting Companies' supposed 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates.

This is yet another example of a powerful media group, right on the heels of the Sinclair Group debacle, abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves at a time of great political turmoil.

During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is thus obligated by law to serve the public interest. Their actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest.

Their actions and those of the Sinclair Broadcast Group show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. This abuse of public trust has simply got to stop, and I hope you will start using your mandate to protect public interests. Thank you.